

# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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KATHLEEN KRAUSE  
CLERK OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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December 13, 2018

The Honorable Members of the FCC  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

## **RE: FCC Tentative conclusions in the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking outlined in MB Docket No. 05-311 - OPPOSE**

Dear Chairman Pai and honorable Commissioners,

The County of Kern joins the National Association of Counties (NACO) and the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) to express our disagreement with the tentative conclusions in the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM) outlined in MB Docket No. 05-311.

Specifically, the FNPRM will have significant impacts on local governments that undermine the express goals of the Cable Act. The proposed reduction in franchise fees of the fair market value of nearly every cable-related franchise obligation will be felt by local governments of all sizes throughout the country. The potentially significant reductions in franchise fees contemplated in the FNPRM would drastically reduce, and in some cases eliminate, the rent Congress intended local franchising authorities (LFAs) to receive.

Here in Kern County, those losses could add up to roughly \$680,000 per year in unrealized General Fund discretionary dollars that provide a myriad of goods and services to our citizens.

For these reasons, Kern County respectfully urges that the Commission refrain from enacting the tentative conclusions and rules as stated in the FNPRM. There is no basis in the Cable Act to change the long, and widely-held, understanding that cable operators must meet the cable-related community needs and interests in addition to paying a five percent franchise fee for the use of local rights of way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Maggard", is written over a horizontal line.

Mike Maggard, Chairman  
Kern County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senate  
The Honorable Kamala Harris, U.S. Senate  
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, U.S. House of Representatives  
The Honorable David Valadao, U.S. House of Representatives  
The Honorable TJ Cox, Representative-elect  
National Association of Counties  
California State Association of Counties